This solemnity reveals how Mary is united to Christ and how she is an integral part of God's plan for our salvation.

3. Celebrating a Better Lent

This feast enhances our Lenten celebration by providing us with two prefect examples, Jesus and Mary, who gave up worldly pleasures to give themselves entirely to God the Father and His plan even in the face of much suffering. Mary said "Yes" knowing that it could have led to her stoning. Instead of just giving external things to God, God desires that we give our very selves to Him, in the most loving of relationships.



4. Celebrating a Better Easter

This feast offers us a perfect opportunity to reflect on how Jesus' coming into the world was the turning point in all of human history. It is the perfect opportunity for the catechumens to reflect on the significance of Jesus Christ coming into their world, and into their lives. Regardless of how the Holy Spirit ends up leading the Church in organizing her liturgical calendar, we would do well to emphasize these mysteries of God, the Annunciation and the Incarnation.

Possible Solution?

How do we proclaim this powerful message to the greatest number of Catholics?

Pope Benedict XVI

"This is why the Annunciation is a Christological feast as well, because it celebrates a central mystery of Christ: the Incarnation." (ANGELUS on 3-25- 2007)

Currently in the Latin Rite the Solemnity of the Annunciation – recognized as a Marian feast – is always pushed to a weekday celebration because it is "outranked" by the Christological feasts of Lent and Easter. However, if we recognize it as the Incarnation as well as the Annunciation its Christological aspect is apparent as Pope Benedict XVI points out above.

A solution for consideration would be to move the celebration to the Sunday closest to March 25. If that happens to be Easter or Passion Sunday then it would be moved to the Sunday after Easter with Divine Mercy being the Sunday after that.

Proposed new Name for this Solemnity:

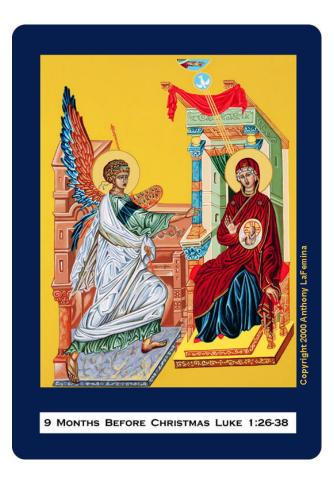
"The Annunciation to the Virgin Mary and the Conception of Christ"

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Annunciation, Restoring the Liturgy